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This Is Special Bargain Week With Great Bend's Leading Merchants. Read Their Offerings In This Issue.

DEATH OF JOSEPH BROWN.

One of the most distressing occurrences in the history of Barton county was the discovery of the dead body of Joseph Brown, an old resident of Beaver township, on Thursday, July 2, death having occurred six days previous to this date as near as can be ascertained. He was last seen alive during the forenoon of the 26th of June, when he had assisted the wife and children of a neighbor to pick some cherries from trees in his yard. He was not seen alive after this date and the fact that mail remained in his box on and after this day helps to establish the time of his death. He was a bachelor and lived alone in a place slightly remote from his neighbors and as everyone in the vicinity was busy in harvest his absence was not noted until the body had lain in the boiling hot sun for presumably six days.

On July 2 a neighbor, Will Cornell, had occasion to go to Brown's house on an errand and found the body lying as it had fallen. An examination revealed no evidence of foul play or accident, death being due, presumably, to heart failure. It had been known for some years that he was afflicted with a weak heart. The position of the body indicated that death was instantaneous.

He was an old resident of the north side of the county, having settled in 1877 on the farm where he resided till his death. He was a quiet man who attended strictly to his own affairs and was willing to grant the world the privilege of doing as it pleased so long as it accorded him courteous treatment such as he personally rendered to everyone. He was highly respected by all who knew him and his death is a sad blow to his neighbors.

He had no relatives in the community, but is survived by several brothers and sisters who reside in Missouri. The body was turned over to Undertaker Fred Charles of Holington to be prepared for burial. Short funeral services were held on Thursday, July 3, and the body interred in the local cemetery.

MRS. MARGARET MCGANN.

The death of Mrs. Margaret McGann occurred at the family home, 637 South Main street, July 9. Deceased was 73 years of age and has been in failing health for some time. She was a devout Catholic, a lady of many admirable qualities, and while not a woman who either catered to the demands of society or desired a large circle of acquaintances, was popular and respected among those who knew her best.

Funeral service was conducted by Father Hall at the Catholic church in this city and the remains taken to Westphalia for burial. She is survived by four children.

C. C. Jackson was here from Hutchinson on business Wednesday.

DEATH OF ADAM GEIL.

The death of George Adam Geil occurred at the family home in Clarence township Thursday morning, July 10, after a lingering illness from cancer, during which time he had suffered a thousand deaths. This ailment had been gradually getting worse for the past five years and for several months past he had been trying in vain with many noted specialists of the country to obtain relief.

Deceased was a native of Iowa, having been born near Martinsburg, in that state, Aug. 27, 1857, and being at the time of his death 54 years, 11 months and 13 days of age.

Mr. Geil came to Barton county a poor boy in 1878 and has encountered many of the trials and hardships which beset the early residents of Kansas, but has, by industry and square dealing, acquired a competence far beyond that of the average of the wealthy farmers of Barton county and at the same time firmly established himself as one of the staunch, dependable men of his community and enjoyed the same distinction through this and other counties in this section of the state.

He is survived by a wife, three small sons, one brother, Andrew Geil, two sisters, Mrs. Phil Leroy and Mrs. Henry Schroeter, and by his aged mother who made her home with him.

Funeral services will occur at the home at 2 p. m. Saturday, July 12, further services to occur at the German Lutheran church after which interment will be made at the German Lutheran cemetery.

FLORIDA SHERIFF HERE.

Sheriff H. A. Bowell, of Marjana, Jackson county, Fla., arrived here on Thursday of last week, with requisition papers, for Clifford Box who was under arrest here for a crime committed in Florida and departed on Monday with his prisoner for the Southland. Some little delay was occasioned in establishing the identity of the prisoner but the sheriff left with no doubt in his mind that he had the right man.

BARN BURNED.

The barn on the farm of Mrs. J. T. Morrison, four miles northwest of Galatia, was completely destroyed by fire last Tuesday afternoon. It was a frame structure, 20x50 feet, with a large hay mow. Some harness, a buggy and some chickens were all that was lost, except the building. There was no insurance and the origin of the blaze is unknown.

Hugh Newkirk and Wm. Auschutz were among the farmers in the county seat on Thursday. They say a "cinch" that we must have rain at once or we will have no corn and not much feed. Some of the corn on hard spots is falling over now, from lack of moisture.

DEATH OF LAFAYETTE WELLS.

Lafayette Wells, of this place, was struck by train No. 31 in the Hutchinson yards, opposite the depot, on last Thursday night, and received injuries from which he died without regaining consciousness. He had gone to Hutchinson on the plug that evening and while there had informed relatives that he expected to return to Great Bend on No. 11 to spend the Fourth with his parents. So far as can be ascertained there was no witness to the accident and no one knows precisely how it occurred—certainly not from trying to "hop" a train going at 25 miles an hour, as was stated in the Hutchinson papers.

He had sufficient money in his pockets to care for him over night in Hutchinson and bring him home in the morning as was his intention. One of his legs was crushed and nearly severed from the body and he died from the shock and loss of blood within about 15 minutes after being removed to the hospital, which was not done for nearly an hour after he was hurt.

Deceased was born October 15, 1880, at Deemston, Iowa. His parents removed to Great Bend in 1897 and he followed in 1900. He had been, in his earlier manhood, possessed of many faults, but was popular and square with his friends, possessed of a jovial disposition and a very companionable fellow. In later years he had broken away to a great extent from his bad habits, had worked steadily and was making good. Thru his period of sowing wild oats he had been largely the victim of his own unfortunate selection of associates rather than any evil intent on his own part.

There are left to mourn his death his parents, two brothers and three sisters, one of whom is at home. Funeral services were held here on the morning of July 5.

Mrs. Hutton of Nortonville, Kas., is visiting the D. G. Martin family, enroute home from an extended visit with relatives on the Pacific coast and in Colorado.

Mrs. Herman and little son went to Kinsley Sunday night for a brief visit with relatives.

Fred Hagerman is back in town again after spending harvest time with the boys. Fred has several farms in this and Rush counties and while he has not pretended to class himself as a harvest hand for several years he can not resist the temptation to go out and superintend the job.

Miss Sara Hammond of this office, and her sister, Miss Grace, left Sunday morning for a vacation of a couple of weeks, half of which they will spend with their sister, Mrs. Crotinger, in Syracuse. The latter portion of the time they will spend visiting their friends in Stafford and Hutchinson.

CONCERNING BRIDGE MATTERS.

After putting up with dilatory tactics until forbearance ceased to be a virtue, the county commissioners have given the construction company having the contract for the work on the Great Bend river bridge a week's time in which to demonstrate that they are capable of going ahead with the work and pushing the matter to completion, at the end of which time, if a showing has not been made which is sufficient evidence to the county board that the company is ready to do business right, the contract under which they are operating will be declared violated and the job will be relet.

The county is fully protected by the bond which was furnished by the company and will not be loser in any way by the failure of those in charge of the work to make good. The only serious matter in this connection is the inconvenience experienced by the traveling public and particularly by the south side farmers in crossing on the temporary bridge, which is far from being what might reasonably be expected.

The work which has been attempted up to this time is clearly the work of incompetents and has never been in any way satisfactory to our excellent board of commissioners, who have spent much time and made every possible effort to make this job a success.

Kent Merry, agent, and Attorney Brubaker for the bridge company were here Wednesday to consult with the commissioners. Also the state engineer, W. S. Gearhart, was here, and the company has given good evidence that the work will be pushed with all possible effort from now.

M. Westenhaver has secured the sub-contract to place all the cofferdams in the river and to drive all piling. Mr. Westenhaver says that business will move. He has had a great deal of experience in work of this nature and he says that something will be doing as soon as the sheet piling is here. In the meantime they will be busy with work preparatory to the placing of the cofferdams.

M. W. Titus is the new foreman for the company and he comes highly recommended. The company states that every thing will be done that can be done to complete the work by the time specified.

Contractor Jenkins has forfeited on his bridge contracts near Claflin and bids will soon be received for the completion of this work.

It is the expectation of the county board that all bridge work in the county will be completed before cold weather comes, which is considerably short of what was expected when the contracts were let but as good as seems possible at the present stage of the game. As stated above, the county is fully protected against loss of any kind and has merely to put up with the inconvenience of getting along with temporary structures longer than was expected.

"SHORT GRASS" MOTOR CYCLE TOUR.

Members of the Short Grass Motor cycle Association, on the annual tour, this time to Denver and the Rocky Mountains, will be here Monday, July 14, about 200 strong. This is an event of considerable importance, although it has not as yet disturbed the equilibrium of things locally to any marked degree. Three local members of the club, Selle, Holmes and Myers, will join here and complete the journey with the bunch.

Dinner will be served the tourists in the spacious dining rooms in the basement of the Congregational church. It is the desire of the local pop-pop riders that as many as possible can will meet here on the morning of the 14th and ride out to meet the club about the Walnut creek bridge east of town. Also that the local riders will do all they can to entertain the strangers while here. To have the club leave here with a good impression of the town and a good word for it is advertising worth while.

On the other hand, if no attempt is made to make their short stay with us a pleasant one, we may rest assured that "knocks" will be forthcoming, which will produce undesirable results so far as our popularity with auto and motor cycle tourists is concerned. The city can well afford to make some effort to entertain this club.

CHANGE REGARDING PARCELS POST STAMPS.

There is now in effect a new order just received at the local postoffice to the effect that ordinary stamps may be used in sending packages by parcels post.

In mailing parcels post packages persons need make no discrimination as to the kind of stamps used. This order will save a lot of trouble and work in the postoffice department here and will make it easier for persons to mail their packages. They will no longer have to walk to the postoffice to buy their parcels post stamps.

The issuance of parcel post stamps to postmasters will be discontinued after the stock now on hand in the bureau of engraving and printing in Washington is exhausted. The reason for the printing of distinct parcel post stamps was to enable the department to keep track of the volume of business done by the new system, and now the department does not care to keep a special account. The regular issue of due stamps and parcel post due stamps shall be valid for collection of unpaid postage on all classes of mail, the instructions to postmasters say.

A change has also been made by the postoffice authorities in the insurance of packages. Packages, fully prepaid may be insured against loss in an amount equivalent to its actual value, but not to exceed \$25, on payment of a 5-cent fee, and not to exceed \$50 for a payment of a 10-cent fee. Heretofore the insurance fee for packages has been a straight rate of 10 cents for the actual value of the package up to \$50.

The report says that the amount of insurance fee shall be placed on the receipt given the sender and on the coupon retained at the mailing office.

Reject Sunday Closing Law.

The City Commissioners of Hutchinson on Tuesday turned down a proposed ordinance providing for the Sunday closing of all theaters and other public places of amusement by a vote of 2 to 3.

The new ordinance, fathered by the ministerial alliance, or at least members of the organization, was introduced at the last meeting of the commissioners held last week, and it was confidently expected that it would become a law on final passage.

However, the Sunday closing contingent had reckoned without their host. The ministers had taken the stand that Bob Flynn, commissioner of streets and public buildings, would vote with Commissioners Smith and Winans in favor of the new law; however, Flynn followed the will of the majority of the people who have expressed themselves on one of the other of the two petitions that have been circulated and when he cast his vote the death blow was sounded.

It is an admitted fact that the ordinance was directed indirectly at Riverside Park, although this pleasure resort was not specifically mentioned. Mayor Fontron had previously expressed his views along this line, making it plain that he believes continuation of the Sunday park is a distinct benefit to the city. Therefore his position in the controversy was unmistakable.

A scrap has been on in Hutchinson for several weeks and several arrests have been made. The matter was made a show-down so far as municipal law was concerned by bringing the ordinance above referred to before the commission.

The verdict against the measure seems to be in accord with the wishes of a majority of the citizens of the city, they being free in asserting the belief that Sunday amusements under proper regulations are not only popular but necessary with a city the size of Hutchinson where practically all the population work all the week with little or no time for recreation with the exception of Sundays. They evidently incline to the belief which is fast becoming popular that "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath."

The M. E. church people, finding the weather indoors too hot for endurance on Sunday evening, adjourned in a body to the park where regular Sunday evening services were held. Why not open air meetings every Sunday evening till the cessation of this reign of super-heated atmosphere.

A LITTLE HEROINE.

On Wednesday night of last week, about 6 o'clock, the home of Mr. and Mrs. N. J. Stride was destroyed by fire. Mr. and Mrs. Stride were away from home at the time and little Miss Bertha, age 10, was left with the two younger children and was out in the yard at the time she discovered the fire. The fire had gained such headway that it was impossible to save any of the furniture or clothing. Little Bertha rushed into the house where the baby was sleeping and brought it out to safety, then returned to the house for a smaller brother who had fallen asleep on the floor. By this time the flames had gained such headway that retreat was impossible and the only chance for escape was through a door in the north end of the house which was seldom used and had been nailed shut. Quick as a flash she broke down the door and saved the brother and herself, coming out of the burning house with her eyebrows and hair singed. If there ever was a heroine who deserved a Carnegie medal little Bertha is surely entitled to one.

When asked by a reporter for the Democrat Sunday evening if she was not afraid to go back into the house, she said: "I never thought of that. I knew I had to get brother out of there and that was all." How many children of her age would not have lost their mind in a case of this kind which would have resulted in the loss of two little lives?

The house in which they lived was the property of K. R. Mohr and was covered by insurance, but the loss of furniture and clothing is a heavy one for Mr. and Mrs. Stride, as it was not insured and is a total loss.

It's Now A Four Town League.

Manager Moore on Tuesday evening after the game received a message from the Manhattan management instructing him to come home and bring the uniforms, also stating "There is no money for anyone." This message was the first intimation of any serious financial difficulty in the Manhattan camp, and came as a great surprise to the fans over the circuit.

Moore and the whole team "beat it" for headquarters the same evening, determined to get a settlement if such were possible. Manhattan started this season with apparently flattering prospects from a financial standpoint, and what they thought was a winning team. Their way to the top of the percentage column has been beset with many difficulties, however, and it is no secret now that their expenses of last year in trying to grab the pennant were out of proportion to that of other teams of the league and so decidedly in excess of their revenue that over half of what was subscribed this season was used to pay indebtedness from last year, hence the financial difficulties.

Junction City "blew up" on the same day that Manhattan ceased to be, which was not much of a surprise as it had been well known for some time that they were threatened with this calamity.

Following the announcement that these two teams would cease to be a factor in the league, a meeting was arranged at Salina for Wednesday at which time a schedule was adopted for a four town league to finish the season, and in accordance with the new schedule our team and the Salina team which was playing here this week, left for Salina on Wednesday evening to open there on the new schedule on Thursday.

This new arrangement will not interfere with the high class baseball of the Kansas State League nor lessen the enthusiasm of the supporters of the national game.

CONGREGATIONAL FOLKS ENJOY PICNIC.

On Tuesday afternoon a goodly number of the Congregational people journeyed via the auto route to Walnut creek, where they enjoyed the shade and cool breezes to the utmost, to say nothing of the delicious luncheon at supper time. The weather in town that day was the hottest of the season, but the picnicers report that it was decidedly agreeable on the creek.

Mrs. Val Kramer and daughter, of Claflin, were here Tuesday enroute to Spearville for a visit with their son and brother, who lives at that place.

THE SWIMMIN' HOLE



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